

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed June 9, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

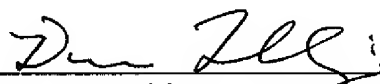
In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 9-10 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 5, 9-10 and 14 contain patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, independent claims 1 and 23 have been amended to include the features of allowable claim 9 which has been canceled without prejudice. In addition, claims 5, 10 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 5, 10, 14 and 23 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 6-7, 11-13 and 16-22 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claim 1 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded. And in particular, no Official Notices are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Dicran Halajian, Reg. 39,703  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
August 11, 2008

**THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP**  
Applied Technology Center  
111 West Main Street  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
Tel: (631) 665-5139  
Fax: (631) 665-5101